



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	§	Attorney Docket:	Grant Prideco-76
Michael Payne et al.	§		
Serial No.: 09/260,250	§	Art Unit:	3627
Filed: March 2, 1999	§	Examiner:	Vaterlaus, C.
For: HIGH EFFICIENCY DRILL PIPE	§		

dm  
8/a  
11/27/00

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 12, 2000, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

✓ Page 15, line 5, change "48 on the" to --42 on the --.

Remarks

The Office Action dated July 12, 2000 has been received and duly noted. A one month request for extension is enclosed hereto. Applicant has amended the specification to overcome the Examiner's objections. The "another shoulder 48" as discussed in the specification is a second shoulder, the first being shoulder 42 as shown in Figure 2.

The Examiner has rejected the pending claims as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of the prior art, and particularly Cerruti '163 or the combination of '163 and Blose '533. The Examiner contends that the prior art teaches the oilfield tubular connection as set forth in Claim 1, except for the functional relationship between the ratio of the pipe ID and tool joint ID, divided by the tool joint OD less the pipe OD, as recited in the claims. The Examiner's contention is that this functional relationship is obvious, and accordingly the claims are also obvious.

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2000

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM